

## REMARKS

Initially, Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative in the recent in-person interview held with Applicant's representative. The amendments and remarks presented herein are consistent with the discussions during that interview. Accordingly, reconsideration of the above-identified application is now respectfully requested.

The Office Action, mailed October 25, 2006, considered and rejected claims 1-11, 15-19, 24, 26-28, 30 and 31. Claim 31 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.<sup>1</sup> Claims 2-11, 15-19 and 30-31 were objected to as it was viewed that they recited methods while depending from a system claim.<sup>2</sup> Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter, and claim 30 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.<sup>3</sup> Claims 1, 6-11, 17-19, 24 and 26-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Strentzsch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,671). Claims 2-5 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strentzsch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,671) in view of Aziz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,119,234). Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strentzsch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,671) in view of Onweller (U.S. Patent No. 5,799,016).<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Claim 31 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of the prior base claim. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 31 is now in condition for allowance.

<sup>2</sup> Applicant submits that claim 1, as previously presented, was also clearly directed to a method, and not a system, inasmuch as it merely recited that the method was to be performed in a computing system. Nevertheless, in light of the claim amendments, in which it has been further clarified that claim 1 is directed to a method, Applicant submits that the objection is now moot.

<sup>3</sup> Claim 26 has been amended to recited computer readable storage media and claim 30 has been amended to more directly recite the limitation in language taken directly from the Application, namely the first page of the provisional application from which the current application claims priority and which was incorporated by reference into the present application.

<sup>4</sup> Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicant reserves the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.

By this paper, claims 1, 24, 26, 30 and 31 have been amended, claim 27 cancelled, and claims 32 and 33 added.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, following this paper, claims 1-11, 15-19, 24, 26, 28 and 30-33 are pending, of which claims 1, 24, 26, 31 and 33 are the only independent claims at issue.

As discussed during the interview, Applicant's invention is generally related to resolving host names into corresponding host addresses, particularly where a native host name resolver is unable to communicate with a resolving computer system inasmuch as the host name resolver uses a protocol which is not accepted by a resolving computer system. For example, as recited in claim 1, a method for resolving host name data includes an act of assigning the requesting computer system as a name server for itself, in which the requesting computer system is a single physical device docked to a resolving computer system, and in which the act of assigning the requesting computer system as a name server for the requesting computer system a native host name resolver of the requesting computer system listing the requesting computer system as the only name server available for resolving host names. The native host resolver can further request resolution of a host name by sending the data, in a first protocol, to itself. Monitoring of a name resolution port of the requesting computer system also occurs to determine when the requesting computer sends host name data in the first protocol to itself. The host name data in the first protocol is then re-rerouted to a replacement host name resolver in the same requesting computer system. Host name data is then sent from the replacement host name resolver according to a second protocol, and a resolved address is ultimately received at the native host name resolver of the requesting computer system.

Independent claims 24, 26, and 33 generally correspond to independent claim 1.

As discussed during the interview, while Strentzsch generally relates to providing network addresses in response to domain name requests, it fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of the present invention. For example, among other things, Strentzsch fails to teach that within a requesting computer system, a native host name resolver lists the requesting computer system as the only name server available for resolving host names, or wherein the requesting computer system is docked to a resolving computer, as recited in combination with the other claim elements.

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<sup>5</sup> Support for the claim amendments and new claims can be found throughout Applicant's original application, including at least the disclosure found in original paragraphs 33-41, and in the disclosure incorporated by reference from the provisional application.

In particular, Strentzsch describes a system in which clients distributed throughout a system can be coupled to various servers over a network such as the Internet. (Col. 3, ll. 30-48). A user of the client system can input, in a browser, a URL containing a host name, for which the browser attempts to identify a corresponding IP address. (Col. 4, ll. 47-52). To do so, the client extracts the host name and sends a DNS query to a DNS server over the network connection between the DNS query and the client. (Col. 4, ll. 52-55). DNS servers maintain a mapping between host names and addresses. (Col. 4, ll. 59-60). An address may not be stored in the mapping inasmuch as "given the infinite number of host names, no one DNS server [] stores all mappings." (Col. 4, ll. 61-65). If an address is not located within the mapping on the DNS server, the DNS server forwards the request to additional DNS servers. (Col. 4, ll. 62-63).

Strentzsch further discloses that in some cases, a client sends DNS queries over the Internet which are received within a DNS proxy in a gateway server. (Col. 5, ll. 38-56). The DNS proxy of the gateway server maintains a local cache for temporarily storing some address-to-identifier mappings. (Col. 5, ll. 56-62). Thus, when a DNS query is received, if the information is in the cache, the DNS proxy can return the address to the client, thereby acting as a resolver. (Col. 6, ll. 11-14, 37-38). On the other hand, and inasmuch as no server can maintain all mappings, if the local cache does not have the mapping, the DNS proxy forwards the request to one or more other DNS servers over the Internet until a DNS server with the appropriate address-to-identifier mapping is located. (Col. 6, ll. 19-30). Thus, the DNS proxy sends out its own DNS queries over the Internet to one or more other DNS name servers. (Col. 6, ll. 39-41). Where the DNS server to which the request is forwarded uses a different protocol, the gateway, which acts as an interface between a client network and the Internet, can convert the request to any compatible protocol. (Col. 5, ll. 38-46).

While Strentzsch thus discloses a gateway server, acting through internal DNS proxy, which satisfies requests and forward DNS requests according to an appropriate protocol, it fails, as discussed in the interview, to teach or suggest a system or method in which the requesting computer system assigns itself as a name server for the requesting computer system, and particularly not wherein a native host name resolver of the requesting computer system lists itself as the only name server available for resolving host names, as recited in combination with the other claim elements. What Strentzsch does teach is that each computing device in the network (e.g., the client, the gateway and DNS proxy, and any other DNS servers) cannot store all

mapping information and must therefore send DNS requests to other DNS devices over a network and/or the Internet. Accordingly, each device in the Strentzsch system is necessarily aware that not only are other servers available to resolve host names, but each device is also aware of at least one of those particular servers inasmuch as it must forward such requests to the server when it cannot fulfill the request. For at least this reason, as well as those discussed during the interview, Strentzsch does not teach that the requesting computer system lists itself as *the only name server available for resolving host names*. In fact, while Strentzsch lists mappings between domain names and addresses, it does not mention any type of listing of name or DNS servers.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that Strentzsch fails to teach wherein a requesting computer system (which includes a native host name resolver, a name resolution port, and a replacement host name resolver), is a single physical device docked to a resolving computer system, as recited in combination with the other claim elements. What Strentzsch does disclose, as noted above, are various computing devices (*e.g.*, client, gateway server with DNS proxy, DNS server) which are coupled via a network and/or the Internet. Strentzsch further teaches a method for managing access to a resolvable address, in which a DNS request is checked, by access management logic, to see if the client is allowed to access the host system. (Col. 10, ll. 21-33; Fig. 5). This method can be implemented as a series of software routines, in any of a variety of programming languages, or in discrete hardware or firmware. (Col. 12, ll. 16-39). In one example, any of the functions can be implemented in an ASIC. (Col. 12, ll. 38-42).

As noted in the interview, the Office Action appears to take the position that the ASIC can incorporate, in a single unit, all aspects disclosed in the invention. In the context of the application, when the teachings of Col. 12, ll. 38-42 are not taken in isolation, it is clear, however, that the teachings are directed to the functional steps of the method disclosed in Figure 5. Moreover, Strentzsch notes that "functions", not each of the previously described *devices*, can be implemented into an ASIC.<sup>6</sup> Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action, which appears to allege that all devices disclosed Strentzsch can be implemented in a single ASIC is contrary to the teachings of Strentzsch inasmuch as Strentzsch discloses that multiple

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<sup>6</sup> Moreover, if each device was incorporated into the single ASIC, the entire system would be an integral unit, and would not disclose Applicant's invention, as claimed, in that a "requesting computer system" would not be *docked* with a resolving computer system, but would instead be integral therewith. Moreover, Strentzsch clearly does not disclose an ASIC in which a requesting computer system can be removably docked to the resolving computer system (claim 32).

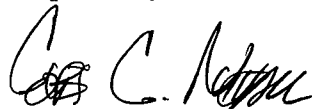
DNS servers are necessary because no single device can include all of the mapping information. (Col. 4, ll. 60-65).

For at least these reasons, as well as the others discussed during the interview, Applicant submits that the rejections of record, with respect to the independent claims, are overcome. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the other rejections to the claims are now moot and do not, therefore, need to be addressed individually at this time. It will be appreciated, however, that this should not be construed as Applicant acquiescing to any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action regarding the cited art or the pending application, including any official notice. Instead, Applicant reserves the right to challenge any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action at any appropriate time in the future, should the need arise. Furthermore, to the extent that the Examiner has relied on any Official Notice, explicitly or implicitly, Applicant specifically requests that the Examiner provide references supporting the teachings officially noticed, as well as the required motivation or suggestion to combine the relied upon notice with the other art of record.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (801) 533-9800.

Dated this 25th day of January, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



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